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Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, AUGUST 21-23, 2015

High 25°C/Low 18°C Get your umbrella out



William Michael Sandeson is escorted from Halifax provincial court Thursday. He's charged with first-degree murder in the death of fellow Dalhousie University student Taylor Samson. JEFF HARPER/METRO

‘It is truly a tragedy’

CAMPUS KILLING
Dal devastated by news of Taylor Samson's death

Haley Ryan
Metro | Halifax

Family, friends and the Dalhousie University community are reeling with the news Taylor Samson was allegedly murdered by a fellow student last weekend. Halifax Regional Police laid charges of first-degree murder against William Sandeson in Samson's death Thursday. Both victim and accused are 22-year-olds from Nova Scotia.

"To me, you were the person I looked up (to) as a child, like a superhero or better yet, a role model," Connor Samson, Taylor's brother, wrote in a Facebook post. "Just remember (you'll) always be in everyone's heart and I love you."

Taylor Samson's personal Facebook page appears to be serving as a place for friends and family to share their mem-

ories of Taylor, with many remembering the fraternity member and physics student from Amherst as kind, loving, goofy and bright.

Ryan McCrea posted that Samson was "one of the greatest people I've ever met."

"You always inspired me with your enthusiasm, intelligence and kindness," Ahmed Ashour was sitting outside his Henry Street house Monday when Samson's mother walked by and asked him if he had seen her son or knew anything about his disappearance.

"I feel very sorry for the family. Imagine what his mother's going through," Ashour said Thursday.

In a statement, Dalhousie University spokeswoman Janet Bryson said Thursday the post-secondary school is "devastated by this news," adding counseling is available for those who need it.

"His future was bright, and it is truly a tragedy," wrote Byron Green on Facebook. "Rest in peace Taylor, you will be missed."

metro
More coverage, page 4

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A woman smiles after being handed a kind note by a Phoenix Youth member on Barrington Street in Halifax as part of the group's Spread the Love Day. Staff and youth from Mulgrave Park wanted to make a positive difference by handing out messages and candy. **HALEY RYAN/METRO**

Volunteers rise to the challenge

HOMELESSNESS

Program helps at-risk teens break the cycle, find a new path

Rebecca Dingwell
For Metro | Halifax

On Thursday morning, a crowd of neon-clad folks from the Phoenix Youth program headed through downtown Halifax streets handing out candy, notes — and plenty of smiles.

The participants of the second annual Spread the Love Day, organized by the Phoenix Youth and Community Centre, strolled and skipped their way from the Grand Parade, along Barrington Street and up to the top of Spring Garden Road, sharing their positivity with passersby.

Many of the young people taking part in the random acts of kindness are part of Phoenix Youth programs Let's Make It Happen and Mulgrave Magic.

Phoenix Youth is a Halifax non-profit group that offers "at-risk and homeless youth ... the opportunity to break the cycle of homelessness and find a bet-

“Some people have bad days. Then you go around, give them a sucker and they smile.”

Shykia Upshaw-Paris, 16

ter path.”

“The (Mulgrave Park) community is usually storied as being negative, or one of those places people wouldn't want to go,” said DeRico Symonds, a community outreach worker with Phoenix

Youth, explained Thursday.

“We kind of took that idea, flipped it upside down and created Spread the Love Day,” Symonds continued. “Youth that reside there and (other) folks are actually really great people and we do positive things.”

In addition to lollipops of every colour, the enthusiastic group handed out positive messages such as, “You're beautiful” and “The world is better because you're in it.”

Shykia Upshaw-Paris, 16, said she enjoys participating in the event because it makes people happy.

“Some people have bad days,”

Upshaw-Paris said Thursday.

“Then you go around, give them a sucker and they smile.”

Symonds recalled one instance in particular from last year's event, when the group was able to turn someone's day around.

“Somebody was getting a parking ticket,” Symonds said. “We gave them one of our messages and got a smile from them.”

They succeeded in getting smiles in return this year as well — at least two came from an Ottawa couple, surprised by the young people greeting them at the entrance of the Grand Parade.



Staff member Suzy Hansen
HALEY RYAN/METRO

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HUGE SUMMER CLEARANCE EVENT!

Police lay murder charges after student goes missing

CRIME

Both victim and suspect studied at Dal; HRP say tips helped probe



Stephanie Taylor
Metro | Halifax

Although the body of a missing Halifax university student has yet to be found, investigators trust they have arrested the man guilty of his killing.

An investigation into the weekend disappearance of Taylor Samson, 22, of Amherst, began to gain traction Monday, leading police to arrest 22-year-old William Michael Sandeson in connection with his death Tuesday night, acting inspector Tom Townsend said Thursday.

Sandeson, also a Halifax post-secondary student from the Truro area, made his first appearance in Halifax provincial court Thursday to face a first-degree murder charge. He is now in police custody until his next appearance, set for Sept. 2.

"We feel very confident in the charge that was laid today in relation to the first-degree

murder," Townsend, who is working with the integrated Halifax RCMP and Halifax Regional Police criminal division on the case, said Thursday afternoon.

"We (believe we) have the person responsible for Mr. Samson's death," he said.

Townsend wouldn't comment on specifics as to how police were led to Sandeson — who police arrested outside a Leaman Drive address in Dartmouth at about 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday evening. He would only say that investigators could "not ignore evidence or leads that keep putting you in a particular direction."

Samson, a third-year physics student at Dalhousie University, was first reported missing to police at about 5:30 p.m. on Aug. 16. He had last been seen at his home on the 6000 block of South Street at about 10:30 p.m. the previous night.

"It became more obvious there was a criminal element involved in this missing person investigation," Townsend said.

He attributed Sandeson's arrest to the work of investigators, numerous tips from the public and social media awareness.

Police believe the alleged killing was not random, stating Samson and Sandeson "were known to each other."



Posters asking for the public's help in finding Taylor Samson lined Windsor Street in Halifax earlier this week. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Our thoughts are with the family and friends of Taylor Samson at this incredibly difficult time.

Halifax Regional Police news release

Court documents reveal the offence took place Aug. 15, the same day Samson was last seen around 10:30 p.m. at his home on the 6000 block of South Street. His residence is a few doors down from where the accused lived, in Apartment 2 at 1210 Henry Street.

Police searched the Henry Street building all day Wednesday. They believe that's where Samson was killed.

Townsend wouldn't comment on whether investigators are currently seeking other suspects or holding further scenes for evidence.

He would only say the investigation is now focused on finding Samson's body, "not just for some closure to the investigation, but also more importantly, closure for his family."

Townsend said the family was notified of a suspect's

arrest Wednesday, but that throughout the investigation police "had to caution what we released and when we released it, because it was an ongoing, active investigation, that we didn't want to compromise."

WITH FILES FROM HALEY RYAN AND ZANE WOODFORD, METRO

PROFILE

Accused killer was star athlete, high academic achiever



Police searched this home on Henry Street in Halifax, which they believe is where Taylor Samson was killed. HALEY RYAN/METRO

Michael Sandeson, the accused in the first-degree murder of a fellow Dalhousie University student, was admitted to the school's Faculty of Medicine, but had yet to begin classes.

Sandeson attended Cobequid Educational Centre and was one of two Lieutenant Governor's Award recipients in 2009. He completed his Grade 11 year with honours with distinction.

He was named a finalist for the 2014 male athlete of the year award through the Truro Sport Heritage Society, and helped Nova Scotia win bronze in the 2013 Canada Games in the 4x400m relay.

According to his LinkedIn

+ HISTORY

Court documents show Sandeson has no prior offences.

profile, Sandeson has been a volleyball statistician, personal trainer and customer service representative at Dalhousie University.

He attended Saba University School of Medicine from September 2013 to January 2014, and was also a personal trainer for two months at GoodLife Fitness in 2013.

He completed a bachelor of



William Michael Sandeson
JEFF HARPER/METRO

science in kinesiology at Dalhousie University, where he was a member of the Tigers' track and field team. TRURO DAILY NEWS



Rehtaeh Parsons' death spurred the creation of the provincial Cyber-safety Act, which is being called unconstitutional under the charter by a local attorney. FACEBOOK/CONTRIBUTED

Lawyer planning to challenge N.S. cyberbullying law

COURT

Halifax's David Fraser wary of constraints on free expression

The decision to allow or deny a charter test of a groundbreaking anti-cyberbullying law passed a matter of weeks after Rehtaeh Parsons' death is expected early next week.

Lawyer David Fraser is awaiting two decisions from a Supreme Court of Nova Scotia justice: One to determine whether messages between his client and a former business partner should be considered cyberbullying.

The next decision will determine whether Fraser can launch his argument that the provincial Cyber-safety Act is unconstitutional under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

"The problem is the legislation is so broad that essentially anything you do that hurts somebody's feelings online in Nova Scotia is cyberbullying," said Fraser, who has been an outspoken critic of the law.

+ DEFINITION

The provincial act defines cyberbullying as any electronic communication "that ought reasonably be expected to cause fear, intimidation, humiliation, distress or other damage or harm to another person's health, emotional well-being, self-esteem or reputation."

Fraser said both decisions, which had been expected Friday, have been rescheduled by the judge to next Tuesday.

Justice Glen MacDougall is expected to rule on whether Fraser's client, Robert Snell, cyberbullied Giles Crouch when the two got into a dispute. Crouch sought a cyber safety protection order against Snell last December that prevents Snell from communicating with Crouch.

Fraser said he sees the Nova Scotia law "as an unreasonable and unjustified infringement of freedom of expression rights under the charter."

"We don't think that what took place could reasonably be

understood to be cyberbullying," Fraser said of his client's case.

Once the judge has ruled on whether Snell has engaged in cyberbullying, Fraser said it's expected he'll rule on whether to entertain the charter challenge of the law.

Fraser said the province, which is defending the law, contends the challenge won't be necessary if the judge rules no cyberbullying occurred.

The law was passed in May 2013 by the province's former NDP government in response to public furor around the handling of the Parsons case.

The teen's family alleges Parsons was sexually assaulted in November 2011 and bullied for months when a digital photo of the assault was passed around her school. She died after attempting suicide in April 2013.

Fraser said he will argue the law fails to take into account such things as the vulnerability of the victim and whether there was a prior relationship, the nature of the relationship, or whether the statements made are truthful or could be considered fair comment.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

QEII mental health patients displaced as fire triggers sprinklers



Zane Woodford
Metro | Halifax

A fire has displaced dozens of patients from the mental health unit of the Queen Elizabeth

II Health Sciences Centre in Halifax.

None of the 41 patients in the unit were injured, and all have been moved to the Nova Scotia Hospital in Dartmouth while the sixth and seventh floors of the QEII hospital's

Abbie Lane building are being repaired.

The fire itself was small, and according to Nova Scotia Health Authority spokesman Everton McLean, the cause is still under investigation.

He said it started at about

7:20 p.m. on Wednesday, and only burnt "part of a door" to a patient's room. The small blaze triggered the building's sprinkler system though, which caused extensive damage to the two floors.

McLean said that could take

"several weeks" to repair.

In the meantime, McLean said there will be no changes to mental health care for patients in the municipality.

"We're available, despite the fact that this happened with the unit," he said. "You can

still access care as you normally would."

The health authority urges anyone experiencing a psychiatric emergency to go to their nearest emergency room, or call 911 or the Mental Health Mobile Crisis Line at 1-888-429-8167.



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FERRY

Nova Star will finish season: Minister

A decision on who will operate the Yarmouth-to-Maine ferry next year likely will not be made until this sailing season is finished, Nova Scotia's transportation minister said Thursday.

Geoff MacLellan had expected to announce an operator for the 2016 season this week, but said he needs more time to make a decision. MacLellan said Nova Star will continue to operate the service for the remainder of the 2015 season. He said ensuring

stability and continuity was a key factor in his decision.

"If we were to hastily jump into a decision now, it really would throw uncertainty into the conversation, into the whole service," said MacLellan after a cabinet meeting on Thursday.

MacLellan said three potential operators have expressed interest, and discussions with all three — as well as Nova Star — are ongoing.

He said unless there is a com-

PELLING proposal, he likely will not make a decision about the 2016 sailing season before the end of this season.

The government has committed \$13 million to the service for 2015, and as of Aug. 20, Nova Star has received \$8.1 million. The province spent \$28.5 million to subsidize the ferry last season.

MacLellan said Nova Star has asked for an additional \$2.5 million this year, but he said the company will not receive any

more funding until the province has reviewed financial data it just received from the company.

He said the province first started asking for the Nova Star's 2014 audited financial statements more than four months ago, but only received them this week.

MacLellan said the money-losing ferry service is on track to reach roughly 60,000 passengers by the end of this season, about 20,000 passengers shy of its goal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Joey Cook, left, and Mike Burt, co-owners of The Blackbook Collective, outside their business Thursday.

JEFF HARPER/METRO

Group wants 'legal graffiti'

MURALS

Artists launch campaign to help 'beautify' Halifax

A group of local artists launched a campaign Thursday in hopes of making the city more beautiful.

"It's to bring world-class artists to Halifax and help employ local artists," said Joey Cook, co-owner of the Blackbook Collective. "Eventually, it's going to be to help subsidize small businesses with graffiti problems."

Cook, along with co-owner Michael Burt, has a gallery and art supplies store in the Hydrostone, nestled in the heart of the city's North End. They advocate for "legal graffiti," or street art, as well as other art forms. In addition, they teach children how to spray-paint by working with schools and community groups.

Their new campaign has a GoFundMe page called Bring Art to Halifax. The first goal is to raise \$15,000. The hope is that they will be able to help pay artists to paint murals on buildings in the city.

"Basically, the charity would help pay for half and the business would only have to pay for half," Cook explained, "because if they're a small business they probably can't afford to deal with the (graffiti) problem themselves."

The murals, Cook and Burt said, will help deter vandals.

"It brings tourism, too," Cook said. "If people know that all these amazing artists are in town — that they can go to this town and see all these amazing works of art — they're gonna want to come."

Other cities, such as Toronto, already have similar initiatives in place.

As a bonus to the practical benefits, having art around the city is appreciated by local residents.

"For example, Argyle Street... gives you a great feeling when you go down there," Burt said.

For their first effort, the campaign is looking at a few artists: Toronto's Lovebot and Axe from Montreal are both on the agenda. They'll also employ someone from the community.

"We want to hire a local artist and actually give them the money they deserve," Cook said. "The time, the paint and the nice space to do it."

REBECCA DINGWELL/FOR METRO

+ MORE INFO

In the coming weeks, the Blackbook Collective will be teaming up with local youth non-profit group Hope Blooms. The organization will soon be adding artwork to its community garden in north-end Halifax. The Blackbook team, along with other artists, are painting the garden's 4,000 square-foot fence.

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Cat Adalay, left, helps Connor Kirby, 12, and Hannah Cullen, 14, in Glen Haven on Wednesday. The founder of The Creator Program is hoping to turn her small business into a commercial venture that allows young adults or university students to join for training. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Tech group vies to win 3D printer

CONTEST

Program aims to teach kids about coding and design



Haley Ryan
Metro | Halifax

A group of Halifax-area youth is hoping to win a 3D printer to make their technology dreams come to life.

Cat Adalay of St. Margarets Bay began The Creator Program this May in order to teach kids ages 11 to 14 about 3D printing, electronic circuits, design and coding — and have them design their own “fully functioning hardware prototype.”

“We really wanted to create something where people could learn to use this equipment to create their futures off of this technology,” Adalay said Tuesday.

Adalay said that with technological advancements such as robots and artificial intelligence set to take away 45 per cent of traditional jobs, it’s especially important to get young people ahead of the curve.

Adalay said a group of four kids in her program has been working with two smaller 3D printers to create their prototypes, but they’re not set up for the kind of large-scale printing many of the kids want to do.

That’s when Adalay spotted the Great Big Gigabot Giveaway, organized by Wevolver and re:3D, who put a top-of-the-line 3D Gigabot printer up for grabs in a voting contest.

“Without a large-scale 3D printer, we won’t be able to create prototypes without having to sacrifice some of the model’s structural integrity,” Adalay said.

“For me, that’s not an option for these kids. They deserve the best.”

It’s great to see children who always knew they loved technol-

“Things are changing rapidly and we need a mass technological education.”

Cat Adalay, founder of The Creator Program

ogy learning new things, Adalay said, but there’s something extra special about seeing a kid develop a passion for something they had no idea they could do.

As of Thursday afternoon, The Creator Program was sitting in second place with 186 votes, but Adalay is hoping to overtake the first-place group by Sunday.

+ POLLS OPEN

Visit adalay3d.com to vote for The Creator Program



GEARING UP TOUR DE FRIENDS A team rides the Heart & Stroke Foundation’s Big Bike near Victoria Park in downtown Halifax on Thursday. The 29-seat bicycle is the same length as a regular school bus, complete with 150 feet of chain. JEFF HARPER/METRO

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WEATHER PASSING THROUGH THE FOG The Tall Ship Silva passes a container ship shrouded in fog at the mouth of Halifax Harbour on Wednesday. Temperatures have been hot this week, while mornings have been foggy along the coast.

JEFF HARPER/METRO

Police dog finds hikers

TIMBERLEA

Women were exploring Bluff Wilderness Trail

A police dog named Baylee, along with Halifax RCMP officers and a ground search and rescue team, rescued two stranded women who had been hiking a Halifax-area trail early Thursday morning.

Halifax RCMP said they received a 911 call from the two lost hikers, a 26-year-old woman

and a 30-year-old woman from Sydney, at about 8:15 p.m. on Wednesday. They had started exploring the Bluff Wilderness Trail in Timberlea at about 4:30 p.m.

The police officers pinged their cell phones to track them down, and with the help of Baylee, they went looking for the pair "in complete darkness." They located the two hikers about 11 kilometres into the woods.

"Other than being tired and hungry, the hikers did not sustain any injuries and were in good health," police said. METRO

IN BRIEF

Authorities investigating suspicious Beaver Bank fire

Halifax police are investigating a suspicious fire after a shed in Beaver Bank was lit ablaze. According to a release issued Thursday, police say RCMP officers responded to a shed fire in the 2000 block of Beaver Bank Rd. on Wednesday around 9:50 p.m. Halifax Fire and

Emergency arrived on scene to find the shed engulfed in flames, but managed to contain the blaze so that the home on the property was not damaged, according to RCMP. The preliminary investigation deemed the fire to be suspicious and anyone with information about the incident is asked to contact police. METRO

Lacewood Terminal Community Celebration



The Lacewood Terminal opens on August 24, 2015, but first it's time to celebrate! You are cordially invited to a community celebration and sneak peek of the terminal before it opens.

Lacewood Terminal Community Celebration

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SCHOOL BOARD

Susan MacQuarrie 'not vacating' her seat

Karen Casey will not remove Susan MacQuarrie from her Truro seat on the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board.

Casey, education minister for Nova Scotia, confirmed with the Truro Daily News on Wednesday that she has made a decision in the censure request by the school board. She said her mind was made up when she reviewed the case and determined the censure process had not been followed by CCRSB.

"I'm not vacating the seat. I got the history of what happened (and) I looked at the process instead of whether or not there was guilt," Casey said.

"It's very clear the board determined (MacQuarrie) breached a code of ethics but it's a progressive discipline and that's what I fail to see. I'm not comfortable (the school board) exhausted all options. This is an elected official and I need to make sure all other options

were (followed) first and there was no indication of other steps being taken."

Casey said she informed CCRSB chairwoman Trudy Thompson of the decision last Friday morning and then sent a letter to relevant parties shortly after.

Casey said in Clause 52A of the Education Act, it states there are four options regarding a censure. A reprimand and letter would be the

first, followed by revoking the privileges of the member and not allowing them to sit on the board up to three months. The third step, Casey said, is suspension of all rights up to three months. The final step is asking the minister to declare the seat vacant.

Attempts to contact Thompson and MacQuarrie were not successful by deadline Wednesday. MONIQUE CHIASSON/TRURO DAILY NEWS



East Coast Music Association executive director Andy MacLean expects a higher turnout for Sydney over last year's host city of St. John's, N.L., due to increased funding and accessibility. CAPE BRETON POST

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Music Week to get \$100K from CBRM

SUSTAINABILITY FUND

Event expected to contribute \$3M impact on local economy

The Cape Breton Regional Municipality will contribute \$100,000 toward the cost of hosting the 2016 East Coast Music Week.

Councillors voted unanimously in favour of supporting the contribution at a meeting Tuesday. The allocation will come from the CBRM's sustainability fund, over two years.

"It's a sizable event and it will have a positive impact on the whole region," said East Coast Music Association executive director Andy MacLean.

The event has a total operating budget of \$1.2 million, including \$250,000 from the province and \$200,000 from the federal government. It is expected to contribute about a \$3 million total projected impact to the local economy over the course of the event, which will run from April 13-17.

The CBRM's sustainability fund provides grants to non-profit organizations and community events.

CBRM chief financial officer Marie Walsh said the municipality had decided to break down its funding over the two years to make it a bit easier to accommodate the request.

Dist. 5 Coun. Eldon MacDonald expressed some reservations about allocating funds from the 2016-2017 budget, which council hasn't yet held any discussions on. But Walsh noted the CBRM has taken that approach in the past for other large requests, such as in the case of Cape Breton University and the PGA Tour Canada.

"Yes, we don't like to spend into the future, but sometimes it's unavoidable," Walsh said.

MacLean expects increased attendance for Sydney over last year's host city of St. John's, N.L., because it is more accessible. He added there is already a very engaged local organizing committee established, and they will work closely with the Cape Breton Music Industry Co-operative.

NANCY KING/CAPE BRETON POST

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Lawyer: Novak knew about \$90K

DUFFY TRIAL

Witness was 'taken aback' by PM's views on residency

Ray Novak, the current chief of staff to Conservative Leader Stephen Harper, twice heard Nigel Wright say he would personally provide Sen. Mike Duffy with the money to repay questionable housing expenses, a Crown witness told an Ottawa courtroom today.

Benjamin Perrin, a former lawyer in the Prime Minister's Office, said Novak was sitting at the head of a boardroom table on March 22, 2013, as he and Wright prepared for a conference call with Janice Payne, the lawyer who was negotiating with the PMO about a plan to have Duffy reimburse the Senate for inappropriate living expenses.

Perrin, a witness for the Crown in Duffy's ongoing criminal trial, said as they discussed the possibility that Duffy might go back on his public commitment to voluntarily repay the expenses, Wright, Harper's chief of staff



Benjamin Perrin, former legal adviser to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, arrives the Ottawa courthouse to testify at the Mike Duffy trial Thursday. Perrin will be cross-examined by defence attorney Donald Bayne beginning Friday. FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

at that time, said they would be repaid because he was paying for them himself.

"I was quite surprised by that statement from him. He had never discussed it with me or consulted with me in any way. It had never been in any contemplation that I ever heard of or speculated on. So, because it was so surprising to me, I im-

mediately looked to my right to see Mr. Novak's reaction and he didn't have any reaction to that information," Perrin told the court Thursday.

Perrin said Wright repeated that information on the conference call with Payne and that Novak, at the time Harper's principal secretary, remained in the room throughout the call.

The assertion from Perrin that Novak knew about the \$90,172 Wright provided to Duffy was previously shared with the court Tuesday, when defence attorney Donald Bayne read from an interview Perrin had given to the RCMP.

This was the first time the court heard it directly from Perrin.

The Conservative campaign has told reporters Novak did not know about the cheque, but Harper has not specifically addressed the contradictory information presented at the trial.

Earlier Thursday, Perrin said he was surprised when Harper decided a senator needed to own only \$4,000 worth of property in a province to be constitutionally

“

I would not be able to consider myself a resident of Nunavut, having never visited there, simply by buying \$4,000 worth of property.

Benjamin Perrin

qualified for one of its seats.

Perrin was testifying about an early attempt by the PMO to protect Conservative senators by more clearly defining residency in a way that would put to rest any doubts about their eligibility to sit in the Senate.

"The prime minister took the position that residence equals property," Perrin told the court.

The Constitution, Perrin pointed out, mentions two criteria for a senator to represent a particular province: owning \$4,000 worth of real property, but also that a senator "shall be resident" there.

Perrin told the court he thought Harper's opinion was on shaky ground.

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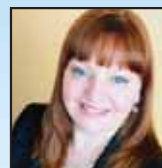
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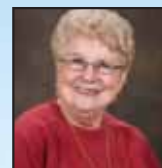
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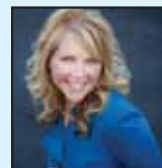
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Justin Trudeau meets with supporters in Victoria, B.C. after his speech Thursday at Esquimalt-Saanich-Sooke candidate David Merner's campaign office.

CHAD HIPOLITO/THE CANADIAN PRESS

ELSEWHERE YESTERDAY ...

• Prime Minister Stephen Harper campaigned in King Township, Ont., where he promised to expand the 15 per cent non-refundable adoption expense tax credit and make it fully refundable. He said a re-elected Conservative government would increase the credit to

\$20,000 from \$15,000.

• NDP Leader Tom Mulcair was in Vancouver, where he touted his plan for \$15-a-day child care in a region where costs for daycare space are among the highest in the country. Mulcair said his plan will ease the burden on women, who often have to

choose between a career and their children, and that his plan would provide more than 110,000 affordable child-care spaces in B.C.

• Green Party Leader Elizabeth May held meetings in her riding of Saanich-Gulf Islands, B.C.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Liberals vow \$190M care benefits hike

FAMILIES

Leader says expansion will have no impact on EI payments

Justin Trudeau directed his bid for the votes of middle-class families Thursday at Canadians needing to care for a sick loved one, promising that a Liberal government would ensure they have better access to financial support.

As prime minister, Trudeau said, he would commit \$190 million to expand the compassionate care benefit — a pledge he said would have no impact on the amount Canadians pay in employment insurance premiums.



It's simply the right thing to do.

Justin Trudeau



WHERE THE LEADERS ARE TODAY

Stephen Harper: Itinerary unavailable.

Justin Trudeau, Tom Mulcair and Elizabeth May have no public events scheduled.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

"Too often folks are forced to leave their jobs and drain their personal savings to provide essential care," said Trudeau, speaking on the campaign trail in Esquimalt, B.C., on southern Vancouver Island. "That's not right."

Under the broadened Liberal program, Trudeau said benefits could be claimed by someone caring for an ailing family member over and above what they're able to provide in off-work hours, as well as by parents tending to a gravely ill child.

"It's an investment in our middle class but, more to the point, it's simply the right thing to do," Trudeau said. "Caring for each other is an

essential part of what makes us Canadian."

Government documents disclosed under Freedom of Information laws reveal that different stakeholder groups — including the Canadian Cancer Society and the ALS Society — lobbied the Conservatives for changes similar to those being promised by the Liberals, including broadening eligibility requirements beyond only those in need of end-of-life care.

In its response section, the document said claimants could be eligible for a second period of compassionate care benefits if a loved one's illness subsided before returning later.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Your actual fuel consumption may vary. ⁴ Offer available to qualified retail customers in Canada for vehicles delivered from July 30th and August 31st, 2015. 0% purchase financing offered on approved credit by TD Auto Finance Services, Scotiabank® or RBC Royal Bank for 84 months on all new or demonstrator 2015 Cruze LS 1SA & Diesel. Participating lenders are subject to change. Rates from other lenders will vary. Down payment, trade and/or security deposit may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. Example: \$40,000 at 0% APR, the monthly payment is \$476.19 for 84 months. Cost of borrowing is \$0, total obligation is \$40,000. Offer is unconditionally interest-free. Freight and air tax (\$100, if applicable) included. Licence, insurance, registration, PPSA, applicable taxes and dealer fees not included. Dealers are free to set individual prices. Limited time offer which may not be combined with certain other offers. GMCL may modify, extend or terminate offers, in whole or in part, at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. ⁵ Registered trademark of The Bank of Nova Scotia. RBC and Royal Bank are registered trademarks of Royal Bank of Canada. \$1,000 finance cash offer is a manufacturer to dealer credit (tax exclusive) for a 2015 Cruze which is available for finance offers only and cannot be combined with special lease rates and cash purchase. ⁶ Offer valid in Canada until 2015-08-31 for qualified retail customers. 0% lease APR available for 48 months on a new 2015 Chevrolet Cruze LT Automatic on approved credit by GM Financial. Annual kilometre limit of 20,000 km, \$0.16 per excess kilometre. A down payment or trade of \$0 and/or \$0 security deposit is required. Bi-weekly payments will vary depending on down payment/trade. 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Credit valid towards the retail purchase or lease of one eligible 2015 model year Chevrolet/Buick/GMC/Cadillac car, SUV, crossover and pickup models delivered in Canada between July 30th and August 31st, 2015. Credit is \$500 credit available on Chevrolet Cruze. Offer is transferable to a family member living within the same household (proof of address required). As part of the transaction, dealer June request documentation and contact General Motors of Canada Limited (GMCL) to verify eligibility. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Certain limitations or conditions apply. Void where prohibited. See your GMCL dealer for details. GMCL reserves the right to amend or terminate offers for any reason, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. 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VEHICULAR MANSLAUGHTER

Caitlyn Jenner charged

Sheriff's investigators plan to recommend prosecutors file a vehicular manslaughter charge against Caitlyn Jenner for her role in a fatal car crash on the Pacific Coast Highway in Malibu last February, officials said Thursday.

Investigators found that Jenner was driving "unsafe for the prevailing road conditions" because her SUV rear-ended a Lexus, pushing it into oncoming traffic, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department spokeswoman Nicole Nishida said.

Jenner was hauling an off-road vehicle on a trailer behind her Cadillac Escalade on Feb. 7 when she steered to avoid cars slowing for a traffic light in front of her on Pacific Coast Highway.

Jenner's SUV rear-ended two cars, pushing a Lexus into oncoming traffic.

The Lexus driver, 69-year-old Kim Howe, was killed when her car was struck head-on by a Hummer.

If convicted of such a charge, Jenner could face up to one year in county jail.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2015 to be hottest year on record

GLOBAL WARMING

Climate change 'accelerating,' U.S. weather officials

Earth just keeps getting hotter. July was the planet's warmest month on record, smashing old marks, U.S. weather officials said.

And it's almost a dead certain lock that this year will beat last year as the warmest year on record, they said.

July's average temperature was 16.6 Celsius, beating the previous global mark set in

1998 and 2010 by about one-tenth of a degree, according to figures released Thursday by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. That's a large margin for weather records, with previous monthly heat records broken by a 20th of a degree or less.

"It just reaffirms what we already know: that the Earth is warming," said NOAA climate scientist Jake Crouch. "The warming is accelerating and we're really seeing it this year."

NOAA records go back to 1880. Separate calculations by NASA and the Japanese weather agency also found July 2015 to be a record.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A youngster cools down in Bucharest, Romania, in July, when a heat wave affected large areas of the country with temperatures higher than 37 C. VADIM GHIRDA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

CRIME

Pistorius's release awaits review board decision

A review board has up to four months to decide whether and when Oscar Pistorius will be released from prison into house arrest, a spokesman for South Africa's justice ministry said on Thursday.

Two days before he was due to leave prison, Pistor-

ius's early release was put on hold Wednesday by South Africa's justice department, which sent his case back to a parole review board. The athlete's release was approved eight months into his five-year prison sentence, when he should have served 10

months before even being considered for release, said justice department spokesman Mthunzi Mhaga.

Pistorius, the double-amputee Olympic runner, was convicted last year of manslaughter for killing his girlfriend, Reeva Steenkamp, in 2013.

News of the postponed release came to the Steenkamp family as they held a beachside commemoration for Reeva Steenkamp on Wednesday, what would have been her 32nd birthday, said Jacqui Mofokeng, a member of the women's

group who petitioned the justice minister to delay Pistorius' release.

"The mood changed," said Mofokeng. "They sent a number of messages to individuals to say, 'Thank you very much. This is a better birthday than last year.'" THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Registrations for new students are accepted for entrance at any time during the year. Schools are closed in the summer, but parents may register their child online by completing the form available on the CSAP website at: www.csap.ca.

For information on entrance requirements, please contact the school in your area as of August 24, 2015.

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Alleged mafia boss Vittorio Casamonica's coffin outside the Don Bosco church. MASSIMO PERCOSSI/ANSA VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Funeral fit for the mob

ORGANIZED CRIME

Mayor of Rome outraged over Hollywood-style service

Romans aghast at a spiralling mafia probe found new reason for outrage Thursday over the Hollywood-style funeral of a purported crime boss: It was replete with a gilded, horse-drawn carriage, flower petals tossed from a helicopter and the theme music from "The Godfather" playing outside the church.

Hundreds of tearful mourners paid their final respects to Vittorio Casamonica, 65, at the San Giovanni Bosco church on Rome's outskirts. Officials identified him as one of the bosses of the Casamonica clan active in the southwest part of the capital.

"You conquered Rome, now you'll conquer paradise," read a banner affixed to the entrance of the church. "King of Rome," read another, featuring Casamonica's image and the Colosseum and St. Peter's Basilica.

Mayor Ignazio Marino called Rome's prefect demanding to know how such a scene could have taken place and tweeted that it was "intolerable that funerals are used by the liv-

ing to send mafia messages."

The parish priest, the Rev. Giancarlo Manieri, said he had no control over what happened outside the church and that inside, the funeral was celebrated normally, the ANSA news agency reported.

Lawmakers expressed outrage at the scene, which played out on TV newscasts all afternoon and evening: Six black horses pulling an antique, black-and-gold carriage to a stop in front of the church as a band played the soulful tunes of The Godfather, and mourners tossing bouquets of flowers as the casket was carried into the church.

At a certain point, a low-flying helicopter dropped red rose petals on the crowd below.

The funeral came just a day after a judge set Nov. 5 as the start date for the trial of some 59 people charged in a spiralling mafia investigation in the capital, in which local criminal bosses allegedly managed to cement ties with city politicians over lucrative public contracts.

Rosy Bindi, president of the parliamentary anti-mafia commission, said it was "alarming" that a funeral for someone caught up in so many mob probes — including the so-called "Mafia Capitale" investigation — could be "transformed into an ostentatious show of mafia power."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

'Quads' born to 65-year-old woman sent home

Doctors in Germany say the quadruplets born prematurely to a 65-year-old woman three months ago have been allowed to leave the hospital.

Berlin's Charite hospital said Thursday that doctors would continue to mon-

itor the babies, all of whom weigh more than 2.5 kilograms (5 pounds 8 ounces).

Their mother, Annegret Raunig, is believed to be the oldest woman to have ever produced quadruplets. She travelled abroad to have donated, fertilized eggs implanted.

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Babies and Kids

Mazoza Allan, mother of Mohammed Allan, reacts to news that Israel's Supreme Court had suspended the detention order for her son. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Palestinian ends his hunger strike

ISRAEL

Crisis over controversial force-feeding law averted

A Palestinian held without charge by Israel ended his unprecedented 66-day hunger strike Thursday, his lawyer said, after the Supreme Court ordered him released from detention.

The decision by Mohammed Allan to halt his fast appeared to avert a crisis over two controversial Israeli actions that threatened to unleash Palestinian violence as his health deteriorated. Allan's case tested a new Israeli law allowing fast-ing inmates to be force-fed, a measure that many doctors say

amounts to torture. It also cast light on Israel's use of administrative detention — the holding of suspects in special cases for long periods without charge.

Allan, 31, ended his strike Thursday, according to his lawyer, Jamil Khatib, who added that his client was still in serious but stable condition in Barzilai hospital in the southern Israeli city of Ashkelon. He said it could take several weeks to determine how much Allan's health was damaged by the prolonged fast.

Allan, who lost consciousness Aug. 14, was showing "great improvement," said Dr. Hezy Levy. He had regained consciousness Monday, and he was said to have suffered some brain damage as a result of the fast.

"We took him off the respirator. He's no longer sedated,"



I am happy that medically he is on the right path.

Dr. Hezy Levy

Levy said. "He is starting to communicate and I am happy that medically he is on the right path."

Levy said he hoped that Allan would soon start eating again on his own. Allan's body cannot yet process food after such a prolonged fast.

During his hunger strike, Allan was not force-fed, which entails inserting a feeding tube into his stomach. He was, however, given intravenous fluids, vitamins and nutrients as his condition deteriorated.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Israel denies wedding request by Hamas leader

Israeli authorities have denied a request by a top Hamas leader to allow his three sisters in Israel to visit the Gaza Strip for his son's wedding. The Israeli defence body COGAT said Ismail Haniyeh's request was denied because of "Israeli humanitarian cases" in Gaza. It's apparently a reference to two Israeli citizens who are being held in Gaza, as well as the remains of Israeli soldiers Hamas is said to have. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

YEMEN

Assassination bid kills four in Aden

A bomb attack in the governor's office in Yemen's southern port city of Aden on Thursday killed four people, security officials said. The governor and other officials present at the time were not hurt in the apparent assassination attempt.

Ten people were wounded in the blast in Gov. Nayef al-Bakry's office, police said. Al-Bakry, who oversees the Aden governorate, was holding a meeting with military and security officials at the time.

No one claimed responsibility for the attack and authorities were investigating, said the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to reporters.

Pro-government fighters took Aden in July, after driving out rebels known as Houthis who had seized it in the spring. The recapture of Aden was carried out with support from a Saudi-led coalition.

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metr NEWS Business

WEEKEND, August 21-23, 2015 19

PRESENTATION

Foods take on new rainbow of colours

Mozzarella cheese at Panera restaurants won't be as glaringly white. Banana peppers in Subway sandwiches won't be the same exact shade of yellow. Trix cereal will have two fewer colours.

Food makers are purging their products of artificial dyes as people increasingly eschew anything in their food they don't feel is natural. But replicating the vivid colours Americans expect with ingredients like beets and carrots isn't always easy. In fact, General Mills couldn't find good alternatives for the blue and green pieces in Trix, so the company is getting rid of those colours when the cereal is reformulated later this year. The red pieces — which will be coloured with radishes and strawberries — will also look different.

Colours made from fruits,



Trix cereal with artificial colours, left, and natural colours. COURTESY GENERAL MILLS/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

vegetables and spices, present more challenges than artificial dyes. In addition to costing more, colours from fruits and vegetables can be sensitive to heat and acidity. And since they're used in higher doses to achieve boldness, tweaks to other parts of recipes may be needed. Such adjustments can be tricky for companies that manufacture on massive scales.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Greek PM quits after bailout deal rebellion

POLITICS

Sept. 20 is likeliest date for elections, officials say

Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras resigned Thursday and called early elections, an attempt to get a new, stronger mandate to implement a three-year bailout program that sparked a rebellion within his radical left party.

In a televised address to the nation, Tsipras said his government got the best deal possible for the country when it agreed to an 86-billion-euro (\$95-billion-US) bailout from other eurozone countries.

The rescue was all that kept Greece from a disastrous exit from the euro but came with strict terms to cut spending and raise taxes — the very measures Tsipras had pledged to fight when he won elections in January.

His U-turn in accepting the demands by the country's creditors led to outrage among hardliners in his Syriza party, with dozens voting against him during the bailout's ratification in parliament last week, which was approved thanks to support from opposition parties.

Tsipras has insisted that although he disagrees with the conditions of the bailout terms, he had no choice but to accept and implement them to keep



Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras, flanked by his aides, leaves the presidential palace in Athens after presenting his resignation on Thursday. LOUISA GOULIAMAKI/AFP/GETTY IMAGES



The popular mandate I received on January 25 has exhausted its limits.

Alexis Tsipras

Greece in the euro, which the vast majority of Greeks want.

With the country's finances now secured, Tsipras said he felt obliged to let the Greek people evaluate his work.

Tsipras had delayed a deci-

sion on whether to call new elections until after Greece received the first installment from the bailout and made a debt repayment to the European Central Bank, both of which it did Thursday.

"Now that this difficult cycle has ended ... I feel the deep moral and political obligation to set before your judgment everything I have done, both right and wrong, the achievements and the omissions," he said in the address. "The popular mandate I received on January 25 has exhausted its limits."

Tsipras formally submitted his resignation to the coun-

try's president, Prokopis Pavlopoulos to begin the election process. This will involve letting the two main opposition parties — the conservative New Democracy and the Nazi-inspired Golden Dawn — try to form a government. Each party can spend up to three days trying to do so. Neither party, however, is expected to have the support in parliament.

Tsipras did not mention a date for the election, although it will have to be held within the next month, with government officials saying Sept. 20 is the likeliest date.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Shomi eyes wider base

Shomi, the streaming video platform from Rogers Communications and Shaw Communications is now available to all Canadians through their Internet provider, regardless of which TV service they use. Previously, Shomi was available only to Rogers and Shaw cable TV and Internet customers. New members get a one-month free trial. After that, it will cost \$8.99 a month — the same price as Netflix.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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metr VIEWS

Your essential daily news

WEEKEND, August 21-23, 2015

THE KOHLER REPORT: ON INFANT INTERLOPERS



I don't think anyone enjoys excluding babies, but I do think a lot of people enjoy certain activities more when babies are excluded.

I woke up this morning wondering how I could alienate myself from all my friends who have children. And then it hit me: Write a column about how I don't want them to bring their children places. So here I am.

Earlier this week a Winnipeg mother attempted to bring her two-month-old son to an outdoor theatre to see the play *Sister Act* and was turned away due to the theatre's "no babes in arms" policy. The mum then went to the media crying foul. I say all is fair in love, war and Whoopi Goldberg-inspired theatre.

I don't think anyone

enjoys excluding babies, but I do think a lot of people enjoy certain activities more when babies have been excluded. Plays, for instance. The dramatic arts are best enjoyed in an environment devoid of distractions, noise and "eau de poo," and the problem with babies is that all of those things are kind of their shtick. A baby is like a soft little boom box with no volume control that intermittently plays high-pitched noises. Frankly, *Sister Act* has enough of those on its own.

I was doing standup in a suburb north of Toronto a few months ago when some-

one showed up with their six-week-old daughter. I now know that a great way to ruin a good abortion joke is to have a tiny heckler punctuate it with several googos and ga-gas.

I'm pretty easygoing about babies in most situations. I like babies. But what about that whole "There's a time and a place" thing? What if I showed up to a Gymboree Play & Learn and started doing shots in the corner? How would that go down?

It's pretty hard to talk about this without feeling like a very bad person. Nobody wants to resent a baby, except maybe their older

sibling. And I admit that I don't have kids so I don't know what it's like to really, really, really want to see *Sister Act* in an outdoor theatre in Winnipeg and not be allowed to. I can only imagine the sorrow.

I'm not saying your baby isn't important (I believe that children are our future), but why should your and your baby's happiness override that of others?

Maybe one day I will have a baby and I'll reread this column and dislike myself greatly. Maybe I'll try to go somewhere with my baby and be turned away. Maybe I'll be angry and go to the news station or maybe I'll say to myself, "Relax, Rebecca. There's lots of other stuff you can do with your baby. You can go to Chippen- dales another time."

Rebecca Kohler is a standup comic, writer, actor, gymnast, lawyer and chemist. (Some of this isn't true.) Follow her on Twitter @becca_kohler.

The Ashley Madison leak: Violation or case of karma? Visit metronews.ca to answer our poll.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

A book that makes you change the way you think, forever

Ta-Nehisi Coates tweets a lot lately about video games.

He tweets opaquely about video games. Example: "Pool of Radiance series is the best of the 80s old school joints. Those who disagree are base enemies of humanity."

Some of his followers openly wonder if his Twitter feed has been hacked. It has not.

The expectation is that the man who wrote *Between the World and Me* — which will be dubbed the most important book of the year/decade and can be found in the hands of Barack Obama and the pop singer JoJo — must tweet with the same gravitas with which he writes books: Burdened and proud, poetic and purposeful. And possibly only about race.

But it would be a mistake to think that if you read his book (everyone is reading his book) you will know him. That is never true.

The payoff is different, and better. You will understand, in as much intimacy as is possible, what life is like for a black man, if you are not one. That is no small thing.

You will also find in a slim white book a heavy and disorienting theory of race, how it is inextricably tied to the American (or capitalist) dream, and how small we all are in the face of that myth.

Destructive, too, because it's one of those books that

doesn't let you go back to the way you used to think. It destroys your previous understanding of race and explains why, to quote Coates, there is no post-racial America and there will never be, unless the concept of "America" itself is destroyed.

No, it's not light summer reading. Yes, you should get a copy.

Probably, the book is most important for black Americans, and maybe black Canadians, and other so-called non-whites.

But I am a so-called white woman, and it is also an important book for me. Coates charges that in order to stop the oppression of black people, white people have to stop thinking they're white. We have to recognize that "whiteness" and racial hierarchies at large were created so that some people could exploit others, and that there is actually no biological basis for race (a basic fact, and part of why Rachel Dolezal was so fascinating).

I spend my days flitting about from article to article, one thin idea to the next. I often feel parched for depth, but can hardly seem to finish a book these days. I often think it's my fault.

But I read Coates' book in a weekend.

It's engrossing, beautiful and painful. Not very long, anything but thin.

Happy face / Sad face

From **sexy soirées** to **invading insects**, Metro weighs in on the news making headlines this week

An accessible orgy

In some ways it was like any other sex party in Toronto: booze flowing, burlesque dancers dancing and a performance artist painting in the nude. But this sold-out show offered something different: hydraulic lifts and harnesses to help people get in and out of wheelchairs, and free entry to personal support workers. As far as the organizers know, Deliciously Disabled was the city's first sex party specifically for people with disabilities, and it provided both X-rated fun for those involved and a reminder to everyone that disability and sexuality aren't mutually exclusive. SOURCE: VICE



Saudi suffrage celebration

In a seriously belated suffragette-style victory, the first Saudi Arabian women have registered to vote in local elections. They'll also be able to stand for office for the first time in December. Local feminists are now leading a drive to register women to vote, and the newly named King Salman is gaining international praise for approving the measure, despite the late date. Amidst all the cheering, some Saudis see suffrage as a "Western intrusion" — and women are still not allowed to drive themselves to the polls. SOURCE: AL JAZEERA

Woes in the woods

One of Canada's most beautiful trees — the emerald-green eastern hemlock — is "in intensive care," says a paper in the journal *Science*. Its enemy: a pinhead-sized Japanese insect, the hemlock woolly adelgid. It has infested more than half the hemlock's territory and kills almost every tree it attacks. Insecticides are expensive and labour intensive. Scientists may release a predator to eat the adelgid or breed hemlocks resistant to it. It's unclear if either can be done before the forest is emptied of an icon. SOURCE: SCIENCE



Decoding discrimination

Smart software can do a reasonable imitation of a human worker, even evaluating job applications and making loan decisions — but it turns out it's copying our flaws as well. Algorithms meant to eliminate discrimination may be replicating it instead, according to a new paper presented at an Australian data-mining conference. Researchers wrote a code that predicted applicants' race and gender based on the data used by a resume-scanning program, which was apparently picking up on things like street names and applicant names, leading to unfair generalizations. SOURCE: GIZMODO

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PHILOSOPHER CAT by Jason Logan





"I have secretly over the last several years been viewing pornography on the Internet and this became a secret addiction and I became unfaithful to my wife."
- Josh Duggar, whose name was in leaked Ashley Madison database

Sinister 2 shtick far too slick

SCARY MOVIES

Glossy production makes horror hard to believe

IN FOCUS

Richard Crouse



When was the last time you were freaked out by a Hollywood movie?

I can admit that *It Follows* and *Unfriended* raised a few goosebumps and I recall a Saturday matinee screening of *Paranormal Activity* that was the first and only time I have ever heard anyone actually scream in a theatre. I don't mean a quiet whimper followed by an embarrassed laugh or a frightened little squeal. I mean a full-on, open-throated howl of terror.

But these days it seems to me those moments are becoming fewer and further between. Zombies have gone mainstream, vampires now sparkle in the sun and werewolves have hipster hairdos.

I find the news more upsetting than most mainstream monster movies.

A recent re-watch of *In Cold Blood* gave me a jolt unlike any recent traditional gore fest.

It's not a horror film in the conventional sense, but because it's a true story of a senseless murder, it sent shivers down my spine.

A new film this weekend, the haunted home-movie tale *Sinister 2*, can only be called a horror movie because it is so poorly made. It is terrifyingly badly made but there is nothing that will actually give you nightmares, and isn't that the whole point?

George Mihalka, director of *My Bloody Valentine* — a movie Quentin Tarantino calls his all-time favourite slasher film — agrees that conventional horror is in a rut.

"As long as mainstream horror focuses on glossy monsters and the perfectly backlit villain and stylish gore shots that could pass for TV commercial beauty shots where blood and victims are interchangeable with beer and models, there is nothing left to fear," he says.

"An honest well-developed character is the reflective mirror that conveys the reality of the monster, villain, serial killer, ghost, zombie or vampire. If there is no truth or reality in the performance we cannot truly believe in the menace. We are left as numb, detached voyeurs of slick boogeymen or at best rooting for them to kill off the annoying bad acting of interchangeable pretty plastic people."

Horror hero and Rue Morgue editor-in-chief Dave Alexander agrees that much Hollywood horror errs on the safe side, but says there are still thrills to be had at the movies.

"Foreign and indie horror movies — those titles that play genre festivals — are the most exciting and innovative



There is nothing to give you nightmares in *Sinister 2* — expect maybe how bad it is, writes Crouse. HANDOUT

because they're not as bound by the Hollywood business model that favours remakes, sequels and chasing trends.

That said, there are still chills to be had at the multiplex when a breakout title with an original concept comes along — one of the best recent examples being *It Follows*."

Chris Alexander, editor-in-chief of legendary N.Y.C.-based horror and dark fantasy film culture magazine *Fangoria* says "real horror has always

thrived in the mainstream and elsewhere. Always will."

"Throughout horror history, there have always been 'lite' versions of more palpable big-screen terrors. From the various monster comedies of the 1940s (how many times did Bela run afoul of Bowery Boys and Brooklyn Gorillas?) to *Abbott and Costello* romps to *The Munsters*. And *Dark Shadows* was a vampire soap opera that romanticized vampires for lonely housewives.

"Horror in the mainstream

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Mistress America ★★★★★
Fort Tilden ★★★★★
Sinister 2 ★
Hitman: Agent 47 ★★
American Ultra ★★★
Bang Bang Baby ★★★

HOW RATING WORKS
★★★★★ SEE IT
★★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★★ UP TO YOU
★★ SKIP IT
★

has long been a gateway drug for young people and, if they are affected and obsessed by the films they see with their pals on a Friday night, they'll

likely begin the endless quest to 'chase the dragon' and find darker terrors, which are in large supply, internationally. If it wasn't... I'd be out of a job!"

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KRISTEN STEWART

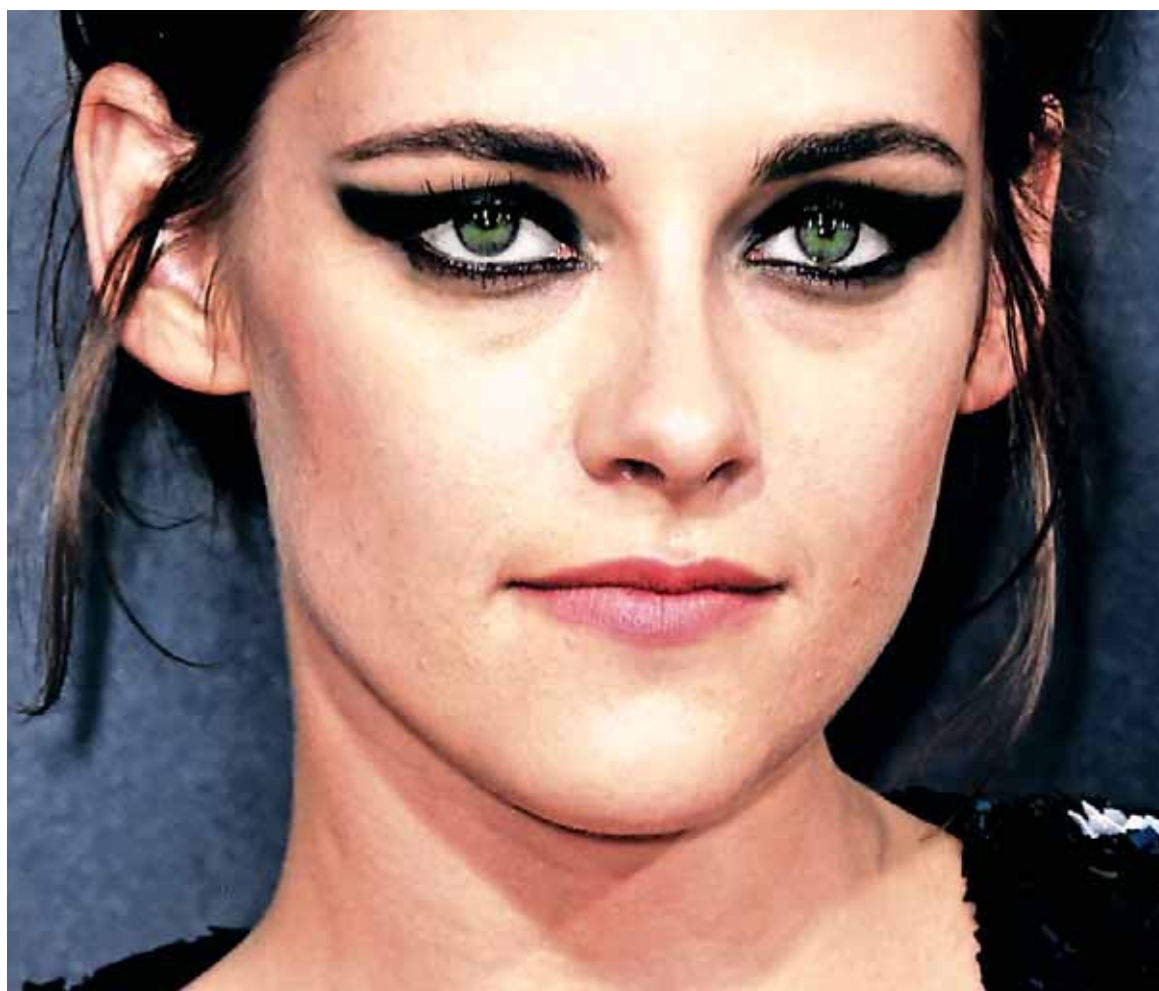
American Ultra proves she's a terrific thespian

Matt Prigge
Metro in New York City

Before she scored the Twilight gig, Kristen Stewart was simply a young actress. She was a child performer, just like Jodie Foster, who played the mother of her tomboyish teen in *Panic Room*. Among her first wave of raves was for a small but key role in *Into the Wild* — a turn that acclaimed French filmmaker Olivier Assayas (Carlos) said made him want to work with her. Assayas would belatedly cast Stewart in *Clouds of Sils Maria*, which netted her a Cesar — the French equivalent of the Oscar — for best supporting actress earlier this year. She was the first American to get the trophy.

Around the time of *Into the Wild*'s release in fall of 2007, Stewart landed the coveted role of Bella Swan in *Twilight*. After that her life was never the same, and not exactly for good. Her existence became a non-stop surveillance hellsuck, her every move documented, her dazed talk show appearances obsessively scrutinized, her sex life salivated upon by every publication. Most one-on-one interviews dwell on her fumbling but usually failed attempts to seem invisible as she walks among us.

What's worse, her brand seemed to suffer. Critics and non-Twi-hard audiences quickly turned to pouncing on Stewart. She still did indies and artier fare, but she was now *The Girl*



ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

The death of Swan and rise of Stewart

**Panic Room, 2002****Into the Wild, 2007****The Runaways, 2010****Clouds of Sils Maria, 2014**

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from *Those Movies* — a starlet with unkempt hair and a perpetually open mouth trying in vain to score some cred. Right now it's surprising that Stewart — it should be said deservedly — won a fancy European acting award, and for a movie that's 80 per cent her onscreen with no less than Juliette Binoche. But it shouldn't be surprising. Stewart has always been a unique screen presence — a thespian of great subtlety who communicates razor-sharp intelligence with very tiny movements across her face.

As she got older, and both more used to and more annoyed with her 24/7 public life, Stewart has become more articulate, more bold, more confident and more easily vexed, especially when it comes to her privacy. She hasn't changed up her performances, though. In *Clouds of Sils Maria*, in which she plays the weary but loyal personal assistant to a frenzied actress played by Juliette

Binoche, she still speaks her lines in a disaffected drawl. But especially when paired with Binoche, with whom she clicks like they were an old married couple, one can sense the intention of each line — the way she's in complete control of the way words come out of her mouth.

“
Stewart has become more articulate, more bold, more confident

Stewart's *Sils Maria* turn is, in effect, “the Kristen Stewart performance” — roughly the same remote, alto-heavy approach seen in *Into the Wild* and *Adventureland*, plus other indies like *Welcome to the Rileys* (in which she's a prostitute to James Gandolfini), *The Yel-*

low *Handkerchief* (a road trip saga with her, William Hurt and Eddie Redmayne), *The Runaways* (doing a mean Joan Jett) and *On the Road*.

This week sees the release of *American Ultra*, which is a stoner action-comedy sort of in the vein of *Pineapple Express*. Jesse Eisenberg plays a sleeper agent-turned-burner who doesn't remember he has Jason Bourne moves until they're awoken. Stewart plays his equally toking girlfriend who helps him as they escape, and in his case often brutally kill, government agents wanting him dead.

She does a lot with very little. She's not particularly funny, nor is she asked to be. She's the film's rock — the power that gives it more weight than it perhaps deserves. This shouldn't be surprising, and it shouldn't be think piece-worthy. After all, she has a Cesar.

Triple threat in Bang Bang Baby

BANG BANG BABY

Levy digs out her LaDuca's for musical sci-fi fantasy

Richard Crouse

For Metro Canada



Jane Levy has a diverse resume that includes the cable hit *Shameless* (where she dies in a most fiery way), the sitcom *Suburgatory* and the 2013 remake of *Evil Dead*. But her new film, *Bang Bang Baby* takes her back to where she began: singing and dancing.

"I did musical theatre, mostly because it was the only theatre available, not to say anything negative about that, but I wanted to be an actor. I loved drama and that was the way to do it so I was in all the plays. I was in *Annie*. I was in *Oklahoma*. I was in *Annie Get Your Gun* and *The Wizard of Oz*," When she was seven years old the California native recalls about her seven-year-old self.

She warbled her way through Broadway-style shows until she was about thirteen when she traded the stage for the soccer field. It took a few years but eventually she felt a familiar draw.

"I was eighteen and I just finished my first year of college and I hated school," she says. "I was miserable the



Jane Levy plays a small town teenager with dreams of rock 'n' roll fame in Jeffrey St. Jules' *Bang Bang Baby*. HANDOUT

"I thought it would be a challenge to explore singing and dancing."

Jane Levy, actress

whole year and I couldn't quite figure out why.

"I was in Europe with my friend and I said, 'You know what? I'm not going to do it anymore. I'm not going to school. Why not pursue the thing that I know has always been, deep down, my dream?'"

She's back to basics in *Bang*

Bang Baby, a strange new big screen sci-fi musical that gives her the chance to strut her stuff. In it, she plays Steppy, a 1960s teenager whose dreams of rock 'n' roll stardom are dashed when a chemical leak in her town causes mass mutations and "threatens to turn her dream into a nightmare."

When she first saw the script she says, "I thought, how cool and how strange. I thought it would be a challenge to explore singing and dancing which is something I had done as a kid but not since. And I also thought how unusual, how peculiar, how fun."

INTERVIEW

The outspoken Sam Elliott

Matt Prigge

Metro in New York City

"Hot one out there today," Sam Elliott says in that voice — that bass-y growl softened by his Oregonian twang. He's exactly what you'd expect from his movies, only not so laconic. In *Grandma*, Lily Tomlin plays a poet trying to procure a safe procedure for her granddaughter (Julia Garner). Elliott plays one of Tomlin's old flames, still hurting that she left him decades before for a woman.

Few films deal with aging in a serious way.

People would ask (Brett Haley director of *I'll See You in My Dreams*) what kinds of films he wants to make. And he always basically said he wants to make films about



Sam Elliott. HANDOUT

real life. That's what I think this thing is too. It's an honest portrayal of somebody that's experienced love and loss and is moving on in spite of it all — until the granddaughter comes knocking on the door. **I imagine parts of *America* that won't take to a film that, in its first five minutes, of-**

fers a lesbian character with a younger girlfriend trying to help her granddaughter get an abortion.

I'm anxious to see how often that's going to come up. It's such a polarizing subject. Paul (Weitz, *Grandma's* director), he's not bitin'. He's not bitin' when someone brings it up. Because it's not really what the movie's about.

This would have probably been a studio film at some point, but the market's changed.

I've certainly noticed that. But there's such a market for good independent films. Those types of filmmakers have to go elsewhere to tell their stories. If the big studios aren't going to do it, they can do it on their own. You can't keep a good film down.

Bel Powley Alexander Skarsgard Christopher Meloni Kristen Wiig

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-A.O. Scott, THE NEW YORK TIMES

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-Amy Taubin, FILM COMMENT

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'But what about Museum Mile?' I asked Greta Gerwig. Where does one economically refuel on the Upper East Side after hours of looking at art?

A few years later, Baumbach and Gerwig co-wrote *Mistress America*, which he directed and she starred in — a collaboration they've repeated with *Mistress America*, which opens Aug. 21, in Toronto and in other Canadian cities a week later.

Tracey (Lola Kirke) is a lonely college freshman. Her soon-to-be stepsister Brooke (Gerwig) enters the Manhattan-based picture and shakes things up with her spirited, yet peculiar, brand of adventure.

After the film premiered at Sundance, *Variety* said it was "one of Baumbach's warmest and purely funniest films," which may be on account of Gerwig. Her performance "confirms (her) as one of the great, fearless screen comedienne of her generation," they wrote, "a tall, loose-

THE MOVIE:
Mistress America



THE MEAL:
Club sandwich with fries



limbed whirligig who careers through scenes with the beatific ditziness of a Carole Lombard or Judy Holliday."

And through life, too. I met Gerwig when she was in Toronto promoting *Damsels* in Distress during the 2011 Toronto International Film Festival. Hotel room junkets must have been relatively new and nerve-racking for

the actress — as they were for me. In fact, Gerwig's junket was my first.

I don't remember details of the interview, other than that she was reading a novel when I entered the room. But I do remember what happened afterwards — and not the bit about how we lost the video footage: I'm talking about when I walked

outside the Ritz Carlton and lit a cigarette.

Gerwig sat down beside me and asked for a light. She fumbled with the lighter — like Buster Keaton might, if he were wearing Prada — for minutes. After talking about restaurants in Toronto, Gerwig plucked my notebook and pen from my bag and began to write a list of New York eateries I should visit.

SriPraPhai in Queens, Murray's Bagels on 6th Ave and, of course, the Burger Joint hidden inside the Parker Meridien. "But what about Museum Mile?" I asked her. Where does one economically refuel on the Upper East Side after hours of looking at art?

Gerwig told me about Soup Burg, a diner at East 77th Street and Lexington, which for the next three years became my club sandwich-with-fries pit stop after gazing at Greek art and Gauguins.

The last time I went to grab a post-museum lunch in 2014, Soup Burg had unceremoniously closed its doors. It was a collaboration, of sorts, that I wish hadn't ended.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's *The Social*.

MOVIE BRIEF

JLaw tops big bucks list

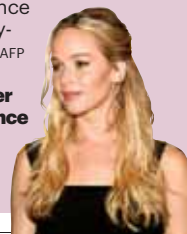
Forbes Magazine has released its annual list of the 50 highest-paid actresses, with *Hunger Games* star Jennifer Lawrence topping the list. Lawrence earned \$52 million pre-tax over the last 12 months.

Scarlett Johansson was second, with a revenue of \$35.5 million. Melissa McCarthy has amassed \$23 million, earning her the third spot on Forbes' list.

The only non-American actress to feature on the list was Chinese actress Bingbing Fan, who came in at No. 4.

The list also brought with it a very telling statistic. Compared to the highest-paid male actors list, the women's combined earnings came in at \$660 million less, confirming the gender-based pay difference in Hollywood. AFP

Jennifer Lawrence
GETTY IMAGES



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Family comes first in zombie spinoff

FEAR THE WALKING DEAD

Actress feared being in show about the undead

It took several pitches to get veteran actress Kim Dickens to consider auditioning for Fear the Walking Dead, the L.A.-set

prequel to The Walking Dead.

The Deadwood star says showrunner Dave Erickson and director Adam Davidson had to cajole her into considering the project, and once she examined the script she was seduced by “the greatest character ever.”

“My instinct was at first, like, ‘I don’t know, I don’t think I’m right for that one, that genre,’” Dickens says in a recent phone

interview from Los Angeles. “I felt the same way about (watching) Game of Thrones — ‘Oh, fantasy is not really my genre’ — but I love it so much. You just get drawn in by these well-drawn characters that are so great. It’s definitely the appeal of The Walking Dead, too, the combination of the genre with the wonderful writing.”

Dickens plays Madison, a widowed mother to two teens —

one of them a junkie who can barely survive adolescence, let alone a mysterious viral epidemic that seems to turn sufferers into snarling cannibals.

Cliff Curtis co-stars as Madison’s boyfriend Travis, a divorced father whose teenage son is reluctant to join his new blended family.

In charting the origins of The Walking Dead’s apocalyptic onslaught, Erickson says he was

keen on crafting a family drama — albeit with zombies — that a broad audience could sink their teeth into.

“There was something interesting to me about a dysfunctional blended family that’s trying to come together and failing to do so,” Erickson says by phone, also calling from L.A. “And then the great irony of the show is the only way they come together is through the apocalypse.”

Despite shared DNA with the Georgia-set The Walking Dead, this is a different show, with “a different kind of tension,” he continues. “Tonally, we wanted to play the shark you don’t see — we wanted to play the anticipation and the paranoia that goes along (with) living ... in a major city,” says Erickson.

Fear the Walking Dead debuts Sunday on AMC.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Fear the Walking Dead debuts Sunday on AMC. HANDOUT

“There was something interesting about a dysfunctional blended family that’s trying to come together and failing to do so.”

Dave Erickson, showrunner

Flaky and unfocused? It's all just an act

GRETA GERWIG

Writer and star of *Mistress America* wants to direct next

Greta Gerwig is sitting in a Greenwich Village café trying to explain how she goes from being fully enmeshed in creating a film — co-writing it, producing it — to stepping into the story and inhabiting a character.

"My job is to almost get a bit unconscious about the whole thing," says Gerwig. "It's an odd paradox of completely knowing what you're doing — the language is in you, it makes sense — and also feeling like you're riding something but you don't have control of the speed."

She pauses. "I keep thinking of a jet ski. I don't know why."

Mistress America is the second film Gerwig has co-written with director Noah Baumbach, who is also her boyfriend of several years. Together with *Frances Ha*, the two movies have established a wider view of Gerwig, who was already seen as among the most authentic actors of her generation.



Greta Gerwig, centre, is seen as one of the most authentic actors of her generation. HANDOUT

Mistress, an '80s-movie inspired farce, and *Frances*, a French New Wave-inspired tale of 20-something struggle, prove that Gerwig is as deliberate as she is intuitive. Though her sin-

cere, confused characters have the messy blurred lines of life, that doesn't mean they aren't finely drawn.

"She's broadening the scope of what she's doing," says Baum-

bach, who first cast her alongside Ben Stiller in *Greenberg* before the two became closer while making *Frances Ha*. "She's a real voice. It wouldn't be wrong to say she has an authorial voice before

she's actually directed a movie."

But as Gerwig said in her recent interview, "That, sir, is in the works today." She's finalizing plans to direct a screenplay she wrote called *Lady Bird* that's set

“

Nobody was going to make any money, anyway. It seemed pointless not to amuse ourselves.

Greta Gerwig on making *Mistress America*

in her hometown of Sacramento, Calif. She'll shoot it in March, with Scott Rudin producing. So, by jet ski or whatever watercraft metaphor you like, Gerwig is on the move.

Mistress America was conceived around Gerwig's character, Brooke, a 30-year-old whirlwind of truly felt but poorly planned ambitions. Her intoxicating orbit draws in Tracy (Lola Kirke), her stepsister to be, a freshman and budding writer at Barnard College (where Gerwig also went, with playwright aspirations).

Like Baumbach's last film, *While We're Young*, and *Frances Ha*, much of the drama comes from characters growing into or accepting their place in life.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Our Committee Members want to thank the citizens of Halifax, Nova Scotia for their generous donations to our November 2014 Poppy Fund Campaign. In addition, we would like to thank all our volunteers, all the sights that provide us with venues and individual sights, too numerous to mention, that agree to allow our collection containers on-sight, to collect the public funds

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Oasis beyond The Strip

Las Vegas lures visitors from around the world with its bright lights, gambling and flamboyant shows. But even the most die-hard revellers can get worn out from the never-ending party on The Strip. Two of the top destinations for Vegas visitors who need a break are just 30 minutes to the southeast at the Arizona-Nevada state line: Hoover Dam and Lake Mead.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

1 Hoover Dam

Built between 1931-36, Hoover Dam is an architectural marvel, considered one of America's seven modern civil engineering wonders.

The dam spans 379 metres across Black Canyon and rises 221 metres from the Colorado River.

But like the Grand Canyon or Niagara Falls, Hoover Dam is a sight — albeit man-made — where descriptions or pictures don't do it justice; it's something that has to be seen to truly appreciate.

The view from the road is unimpressive, but once you look over the edge to the sliver of river below, expect your breath to be taken away. The view from the O'Callaghan-Tillman Memorial Bridge above the dam — accessed from a parking lot on the road to Hoover Dam — also is spectacular and looking back toward the deep blue water of Lake Mead isn't bad, either.

The visitor centre offers interesting details about the dam's history, but to get a true appreciation, take the tour to see the inner workings.

A quick warning: The large elevator can be crowded and there are warnings about claustrophobia. The trip is short, though, and the friendly guides tend to ease the tension during the 161-metre ride down.

The 30-minute guided power plant tour includes viewing the nine-metre penstock pipes, which control the flow of water, along with massive generators and access to the visitor centre. The hour-long dam tour has the same elements, but visitors also get to explore the various tunnels throughout the dam and peer out the air vents facing the downstream face.

Online: usbr.gov/lc/hoverdam



ISTOCK

2 Lake Mead

At full capacity, Lake Mead is the largest reservoir in the United States. It hasn't been at capacity in decades, though, with water levels dropping more than 60 per cent due to drought conditions in the Southwest.

Even with low levels, Lake Mead is still one of the largest man-made lakes in the country — and there's plenty to do. During the summer, the main attraction is the water: boating, water skiing, jet skiing, swimming, fishing, house boating.

A warning here, too: This is the desert, so it gets very hot during the summer. Park rangers urge people not to hike after 8 a.m. and to bring along plenty of drinking water.

The lake has nine developed areas, though the boat ramps at Las Vegas Bay, Government Wash and Overton Beach are closed due to low water levels. Las Vegas Boat Harbor, Callville Bay Resort and Temple Bar Resort & Marina have boat rentals, stores and restaurants.

The park has nine wilderness areas and numerous campgrounds dotting the shoreline, including some that back right up to the water.

Though most of the nearly seven million visitors to Lake Mead come during the summer, other times of year offer activities like hiking, biking, off-roading, camping and fishing.

The low water levels have revealed new beaches and coves, along with a few new sights, including the ruins of St. Thomas, an Old West town that previously had been submerged. Divers also can see the remnants of a B-29 Superfortress that crashed into the lake in 1948.

Online: nps.gov/lake/index.htm

TRAVEL NOTES FLYING PIGS, ARUBA RENO AND PASSPORT SAFETY

Jet-set pets

The Ark, a giant, privately owned airline animal terminal and transport facility, is set to open next year at New York's JFK airport. The multi-million-dollar, multi-purpose station is run in part by New York pet-service provider The Spot Experience, and will handle the import and export of horses, dogs, cats, birds, zoo animals and all kinds of livestock. Visit arkjfk.com.



The export horse stalls at The Ark. CONTRIBUTED

The other Palm Beach

The all-inclusive Riu Palace Aruba, on the white sands of the Dutch Caribbean island's Palm Beach, has just reopened after a \$32-million renovation. All rooms, restaurants, bars, pools and even the theatre have been made over. Other highlights include a casino, a golf course and a 24-hour sports bar. Visit riu.com.



The Riu Palace Aruba CONTRIBUTED

Passport tip

As a safety net in the event your passport goes AWOL, keep copies of it in your luggage. Stash one in your suitcase, one in your carry-on and even one in the sole of your sneakers, along with a jpg of it on your phone and on a cloud-based server. This may seem like overkill, but it makes replacing it so much simpler. Visit travel.gc.ca.

DOUG WALLACE



Keep a copy of your passport in a safe place. CONTRIBUTED



ISTOCK; INSET: SUBMITTED

NOT A TOURIST | A letter from Kathy Buckworth in Dubai

City in the sand

Dubai is a land of extremes. Just hours before this photo was taken of me in the desert, I was downhill skiing and zip lining, indoors, at one of the world's most exclusive shopping malls.

The day before saw a river-boat ride to the souks (markets) full of gold, silk and spices. Those same spices make their way to cuisines from around the world, offered in upscale restaurants with gold-leaf martinis, or market stalls along the beach-front.

The extremes are no more pronounced than

when standing at the top of Burj Khalifa, the tallest building in the world, epitomizing their informal "Bigger. Larger. Taller." motto. More highs and lows, The Palms is the world's only man-made island visible from space, built out of sand from the depths of the Persian Gulf.

On the ground, The Palms is home to some of the wealthiest inhabitants of this city that has grown from 5,000 to 1.2 million in just 50 years, including 45,000 Canadians. I started this trip off right by flying Emirates Airline in business class, wetting my whistle in the onboard always-open standup cocktail lounge before exploring this unique and startling dry city in the sand.



FROM PICNICS TO MYSTERY DINNERS

Fleeting eats: World's best pop-up dining experiences



ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie

Looking for a unique culinary adventure on your next vacation? From eating mystery meals while blindfolded to themed picnics, the pop-up dining craze is here. Cheapflights.ca shared their suggestions with me on fun, yet fleeting, foodie experiences.

London is a hotbed for culinary tourism. Street Feast runs through to the end of September and brings together 50 of London's best street-food vendors for an epic dining experience. Not only will there be enticing food, from tacos and BBQ to dosas and grilled cheese, but those simply looking for a tippie can hang their hat at one of the many pop-up bars, slinging everything from tequila to gin.

Downtown Calgary is inviting people to dine al fresco. Every other Wednesday from noon to 1 p.m. throughout the summer locals and visitors can experience Pop-Up Picnics. Each picnic has a different theme from a British garden party to circus and is held at different



TD's PopUp in Portland, Ore.
COURTESY THREE DEGREES TD'S POPUP

locations so you can go to all of them and never see or eat the same thing twice. Each picnic features a food vendor, live entertainment, games and picnic blankets.

Tacos? Check. Tequila? Also check. TD's PopUp in Portland, Ore., is an offshoot of the city's Three Degrees restaurant. The theme is simple: tacos and tequila served up on the banks of the Willamette River courtesy of Chef Thomas Dunklin. The tiny 10-seat counter-service pop-up runs along the waterfront until October from noon to 8 p.m.

Fans of ceviche might want to consider a trip to West Holly-

wood to the Mondrian Hotel to experience Chef Octavio Olivas' Ceviche Project running until Oct. 22. Monthly pop-up dinners are held at the hotel's Sky Bar; each one features five courses based around ceviche. The menu is dependent on what fresh fish the chef manages to find that day.

If you like your dinner with a side of mystery, check out Four Seasons Undercover, happening at several Four Seasons hotels throughout North America. At these dinners, guests are given no details about what to expect other than when to meet in the lobby. At the anointed meeting time, guests are blindfolded until it's time for the big reveal and they are presented with their one-of-a-kind dining experience.

EatWith isn't so much a traditional pop-up restaurant, but an off-the-cuff dining experience you won't get anywhere else. Chefs in cities around the world, vetted by EatWith, put together dinners based on whatever inspires them. Menus are listed online. Travellers simply search for menus in their destination city and find a meal that intrigues them, make a reservation and then sit down for a meal with their local host.

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5 MUST TRYs IN CHIC DUSSELDORF

Dusseldorf is a sophisticated, cosmopolitan city of swish hotels, contemporary art and designer labels. Though its surface glitter is underpinned by the business acumen of its banks and corporate headquarters, fashion houses and advertising agencies, it's the confident ease with which Dusseldorf enjoys its prosperity that strikes visitors most forcefully, from the Altstadt's bars and restaurants to the chichi boutiques on stately Königsallee. Dusseldorf's worldly flair is evidently nothing new, for when Napoleon passed through in 1806 he thought the city a "little Paris." Today it offers an invigorating contemporary art and architectural movement, which seems to have sprung out of the soil via Frank Gehry and Will Alsop. **ANDREW JOHN VIRTUE DOBSON/FOR METRO**



1 Leaning towers

Over the past decade, the redundant harbour south of the parliament has been reinvented as the hip Media Harbor, with advertising agencies alongside slick nightclubs, restaurants and eye-catching buildings by celebrity architects. Particularly distinctive are the wobbly silver-and-white Neuer Zollhof towers by Frank Gehry.



3 To market wego

Pop by Carlsplatz, the city's farmers' market, during the lunch hour to swoon over all the handsome gents in dapper suits who come here to enjoy a fresh al fresco feast. Take the time to wander through the market's various alleyways and you'll discover lush floral bouquets, smoky butchers, swoon-worthy cheese shops, fresh rye at the bakery and pretty produce.



2 House of modern art

Facing the Kunsthalle across Grabbeplatz is the sinuous, glossy black facade of the K20 Museum, which houses an outstanding collection of modern art including around a hundred works by Paul Klee as well as work by Joseph Beuys, a substantial Cubist collection including work by Braque, Leger and Picasso, and postwar American art from Pollock to Warhol.



4 Place of worship

The distinctive spire of St. Lambertus forms the visual focus of the agreeably walkable Altstadt. The church's spire owes its twisted shape to the use of unseasoned timber when it was rebuilt after a lightning strike in 1815. Inside, the highlights are the rocket-like 15th-century Gothic tabernacle and the splendid Renaissance memorial to Duke Wilhelm V.



5 Palace for a doll

The pretty, pink ensemble of Schloss Benrath is arranged symmetrically around a large pond a short drive from downtown Dusseldorf. Built between 1755 and 1770 in a style that is on the cusp of Rococo and Neoclassical, the complex has a doll's-house neatness. A perfect stop for those enchanted by the lore of the European palace.

IN BRIEF

Giants acquire Byrd to help banged-up outfield

The San Francisco Giants acquired outfielder Marlon Byrd and cash Thursday from the Cincinnati Reds to boost their injury-plagued outfield.

A day after losing out on second baseman Chase Utley, whom the Phillies traded to the NL West-leading Los Angeles Dodgers, the defending World Series champions made their own move to boost an outfield that has dealt with injuries to all three starters: Angel Pagan, Nori Aoki and Hunter Pence.

San Francisco trails L.A. by two games.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Raptors sign Valanciunas to \$64M extension

The Toronto Raptors have signed Jonas Valanciunas to a multi-year contract extension.

The deal announced on Thursday is worth a reported \$64 million US. Valanciunas tweeted that the deal was for four years.

The seven-foot Lithuanian centre averaged a career-high 12.0 points last season, with team highs of 8.7 rebounds and 1.2 blocks. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Jonas Valanciunas
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Josh Donaldson for AL MVP ... 'Who else?'

MLB

Third baseman has led Jays into playoff contention

Among the favoured expressions of Blue Jays' outfielder Jose Bautista is a kind of practiced incredulity. Suggest for instance that Mike Trout is the consensus frontrunner for American League MVP and you will be met with a sharp, quizzical glare.

"What?" he shot back at on Wednesday. "Says who?"

The notion that Trout, the Angels' 24-year-old centre-fielder, is the favourite to win his second MVP in as many years is a foreign one to Bautista. "I don't know where you're making that assertion from," he said. "I would be surprised if he was."

It's no surprise whom Bautista believes is most deserving of the title.

"Josh Donaldson," he said. "No doubt. Who else?"

For Bautista, not only is his teammate the frontrunner, he's the only one in the race.

"If the season ended today, he should be the MVP. There's no doubt in my mind. There shouldn't be a doubt in anybody's mind, no offence to any



Josh Donaldson and Mike Trout each had 33 home runs as of Thursday afternoon.

ROB CARR/GETTY IMAGES

other player."

With the Blue Jays opening a three-game series against the Angels this weekend, the MVP debate will be in the spotlight as Donaldson and Trout face off for the first time since May.

With all due respect to Bautista, it is a true, two-horse race. Donaldson and Trout have 33

6.7

According to Fangraphs, Trout has a wins above replacement value of 6.7, while Donaldson is at 6.6.

home runs apiece and they are both hitting just a shade under .300. Trout has a higher on-base and slugging percentage, but Donaldson has scored and driven in more runs. According to various metrics, Donaldson has been the better defensive player this season, while Trout adds more value on the basepaths

and plays a tougher position.

"We could talk about Trout until we're blue in the face," said Jays centre-fielder Kevin Pillar. "We all know he's the best player in the world. What he does is incredible for how young he is and how talented he is. But you look at the bigger picture of what Josh has meant to this team and where this franchise is at for the first time in a long period of time, you've got to take that into consideration."

Do you? That's at the heart of the debate. What does "most valuable" mean? If the Jays win their division and the Angels don't, is Donaldson more deserving? No definition is given to the 30 baseball writers — two from each American League city — who vote on the award. For some, it's strictly a matter of individual achievement. It should be given to the league's most outstanding player, period, regardless of team performance. For others, a player's value is relative to his team.

"What defines an MVP? I guess it's if you take that guy out of the team it changes the complexion of the team," said Jays catcher Russell Martin. "Who has the biggest impact on their team? It's always going to be debatable. It's kind of hard to compare an outfielder to a third baseman."

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PREMIER LEAGUE

Chelsea beat United to Pedro's signature

While Chelsea awaits a first win on the field this season, the Premier League champions scored a satisfying victory in the transfer market on Thursday by beating Manchester United to the signing of Pedro Rodriguez from Barcelona.

A fee worth 30 million euros (\$33 million) was agreed to bring the 28-year-old forward to Chelsea, with 3 million euros dependent on his performances, Barcelona said.

The high-profile recruitment of a player who has won every major honour shifts the narrative at Chelsea following an unruly start to the season, particularly as it left United reassessing its transfer targets.

Chelsea is enduring its worst start to a season for 17 years, going back before Roman Abramovich

transformed the club's fortunes with the injection of cash following his 2003 takeover.

Chelsea lost the Community Shield to Arsenal and followed this by collecting one point from its opening two league games while Jose Mourinho became embroiled in a public row with his medical staff.

Pedro's arrival bolsters

Mourinho's attacking options, with Chelsea's statement on Thursday highlighting the Spaniard's versatility by being able to play on the wing or up front.

Chelsea's first-choice striker Diego Costa has been troubled by hamstring problems, while backup Radamel Falcao is yet to prove himself in the Premier League after a disappointing stint at Manchester United last season. Neither has scored this season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Pedro
GETTY IMAGES



Ontario native Andre De Grasse doesn't fear such names as Tyson Gay and Usain Bolt. EZRA SHAW/GETTY IMAGES

De Grasse off to worlds

ATHLETICS

Rising Canuck sprinting star to face fastest men on planet

When Usain Bolt was sprinting to three gold medals at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, Andre De Grasse was 13 years old and dreaming of playing in the NBA. He grew up playing soccer and basketball. He could rattle off the names of the best players in the English Premier League. He loved Toronto Raptors star Vince Carter.

It's not that De Grasse didn't know who Bolt was, it's more that he didn't really care about the double world record-holder.

Things haven't changed much as the 20-year-old from Markham, Ont., gets ready to line up this weekend against the best sprinters on the planet at the world track and field championships in Beijing.

"I don't think he's going to be rattled getting in the blocks against Tyson (Gay, a three-time world champion) or Bolt," says

his Canadian coach Tony Sharpe. "He never talks about (Justin) Gatlin, Bolt, (Asafa) Powell. Never. Being a little naive about who's around you sometimes can't hurt. Takes away some of that nervous pressure.

"But there's something beyond that with Andre in terms of competitiveness, that can't be ever coached or taught."

It's that inexplicable "something" that saw De Grasse win the 200 metres at the Pan American Games last month in Toronto, despite running out of Lane 8 and in his sixth race in three days.

And while reaching the podium in Beijing might be a tall order for De Grasse, who's coming off a busy Pan Am schedule and a long NCAA season, Sharpe would never count out Canada's new face of sprinting who has rocketed up the world rankings since Sharpe spotted him as a Grade 12 student in a high school meet at York University. The 100-metre final is Sunday. De Grasse isn't running the 200 but will compete as part of Canada's 4x100 relay.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BOLT: I CAN'T SAVE SPORT ALONE

He set world records, won Olympic gold medals, danced on the track and made the sprint game feel fun again.

One thing Usain Bolt cannot do, he insists, is serve as the lone saviour for track and field. "I can't do it by myself," Bolt said Thursday.

Back in Beijing, where he set three world records and won three gold medals at the 2008 Olympics, The World's Fastest Man

is preparing for the world championships this time around.

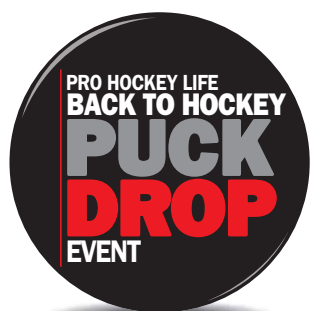
But his news conference Thursday was less about reminiscing and more about the topic that has swallowed up his sport of late: Doping.

"People say I need to win for the sport," he said.

"But there are a lot of other athletes who have been running clean their whole career. It's not just on me but on all athletes." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Usain Bolt
GETTY IMAGES



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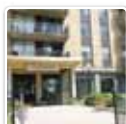
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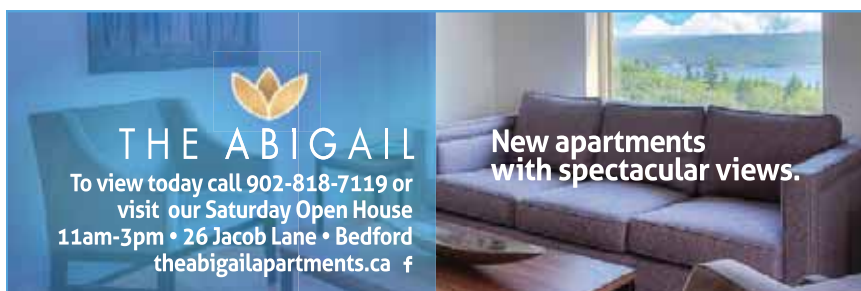
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RECIPE Tex Mex Chicken and Corn Soup



EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com

@rosereisman

A perfectly spiced Southwestern soup that's easy to make and is filling enough to be the main course. Serves 6.

Ready in

Prep time: 10 minutes

Cook time: 16 minutes

Ingredients

- 2 tsp vegetable oil
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 2 tsp minced garlic
- 1 cup chopped red bell pepper
- 1 corn cob (kernels cut off) or 1 cup canned and drained corn niblets
- 1 1/2 tsp chili powder
- 1/2 tsp cumin powder
- Salt and pepper
- 1 1/2 cups diced rotisserie or leftover chicken
- 1 cup canned, drained and rinsed black beans

- 1/2 cup diced tomato
- 4 cups chicken stock
- 3 Tbsp chopped cilantro
- 1/3 cup grated light Monterey Jack cheese or Old Cheddar

Directions

1. In large pot, heat oil and add onion. Sauté for three minutes. Add garlic, red pepper, corn, chili powder, cumin and salt and pepper and sauté for another three minutes.

2. Add chicken, beans, tomatoes and stock. Cover and simmer for 10 minutes. Garnish with cilantro and cheese.

Nutrition per serving

- Calories 216
- Protein 19 g
- Carbohydrates 18 g
- Fibre 3 g
- Total fat 7.5 g
- Saturated fat 2.5 g
- Cholesterol 10 mg
- Sodium 415 mg

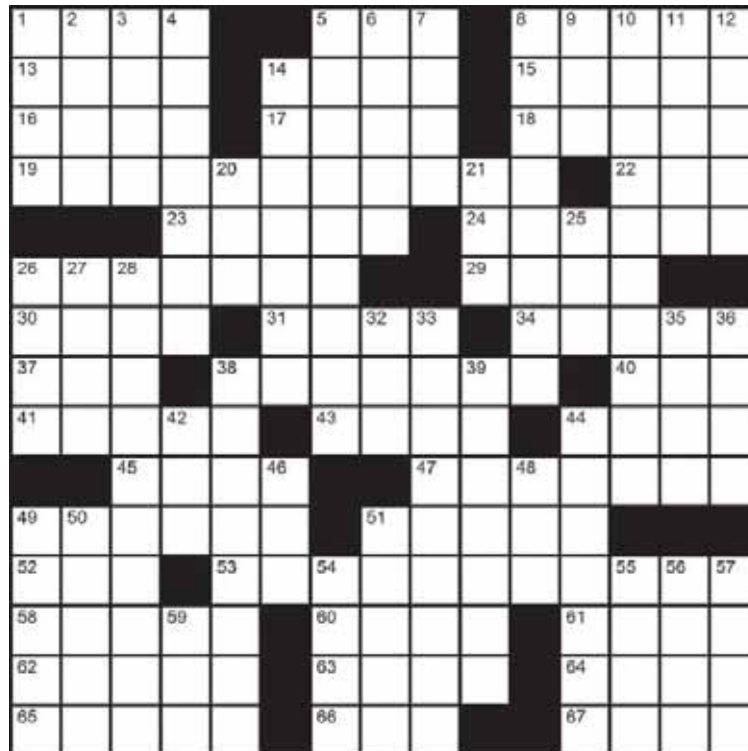
PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Oliver of "Oliver!" (1968)
5. "Today" rival, commonly
8. Jazz improvisations
13. Old Rome's 156
14. Pool-playing props
15. Banish
16. Pack _ _ (Get ready to vacation)
17. Bubbly bar
18. Keepsake of yore
19. St. Ives product: 2 wds.
22. Tennis call
23. Smiler's pride
24. Those who have just had dental surgery might avoid eating them for a time
26. Winona Ryder's character in "Little Women" (1994): 2 wds.
29. Mr. Egoan
30. Oscar-winner Mr. Jannings
31. Frost
34. Spew
37. Down
38. Adorn with garlands
40. Tea: French
41. Slow garden dweller
43. Norse thunder god
44. Scottish slope
45. Miss White of fairytales
47. Church bell ringers
49. "Fantasy Island" character
51. Fibber _ and



- Molly (Old-time radio show)
52. Lisa Loeb song: 2 wds.
53. Canadian nutritionist known for her healthy recipes: 2 wds.
58. Blue hue
60. Auth. unknown
61. Kingly address

62. Persist
63. Use the Xerox
64. Desire Under the _ (Eugene O'Neill play)
65. Bonfire remnants
66. Starring actress in "Titanic" (1997) ...her initials-sharers
67. Week parts

DOWN

1. Mil. fliers
2. British actor Idris
3. Leave a disaster area, for short
4. As per #26-Down... Correspondent
5. As per #26-Down... Regular _ _
6. Concert stuff fans would buy,

7. Ancient stringed instrument
8. Prohibited
9. Big Joe Mufferaw's tool
10. Metric length unit
11. Worked at, as a trade
12. Religious or-

- ders
14. Horse-drawn carriage in Old Montreal
20. _ Lingus
21. "Surfin' _ _ _" by The Beach Boys
25. Journal
26. Ms. Allen of CTV's "The Social" who is the show's #4-Down and #5-Down
27. Its capital is Muscat
28. Flair for fortune: 2 wds.
32. Sports fig.
33. Agriculture... Carrots and beets: 2 wds.
35. Dog breed, _-Pei
36. Casual tops
38. Workers laying down tile, perhaps
39. Mountain formation process
42. Chg. card percentage
44. Fortunate
46. Court
48. Floral souvenir
49. Headdress for Kate, Prince William's wife
50. Carpenter tools
51. Thompson Twins hit: "Hold _ _"
54. Potatoes holder
55. Ben Mulrooney's mom
56. Canadian _ (Military force)
57. Loch of legend
59. Blanche's portrayal on "The Golden Girls"

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
You may want to take some kind of gamble today but that might not be such a good idea. You are advised to remember that there are no easy routes to success: it takes hard work, stamina and common sense.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
What you see and hear today may shock you but don't getting upset or angry. Other people's actions may not be to your liking but there is not much you can do about it.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You may be tempted to start something over that is not going as well as expected but if you do it may never get done. Your best course of action is to plod on and hope for the best.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You have to decide whether or not to continue with a creative project. Think about how much effort you have already put into it. All that will be wasted if you give up now.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Someone feels you owe them and they are about to demand that you pay up in full. You must not let them pressure you into parting with cash. If you owe them a favour then you should pay back in kind.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
It is likely that something or someone will delay or even halt your progress. It may be frustrating but there is not much you can do about it. Stay calm and don't lose your temper.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You should be making plans that stretch well into the future — not weeks or months but decades. You need a vision, something to aim for, something to inspire you. The details can be sorted out later.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Important decisions have to be made today. With the Sun at odds with Saturn in your sign you must get tough, both with others and with yourself.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Use your imagination and visualize what it is you most want to accomplish and what kind of person you most want to be. Don't let the critics and cynics hold you back. You can do anything!

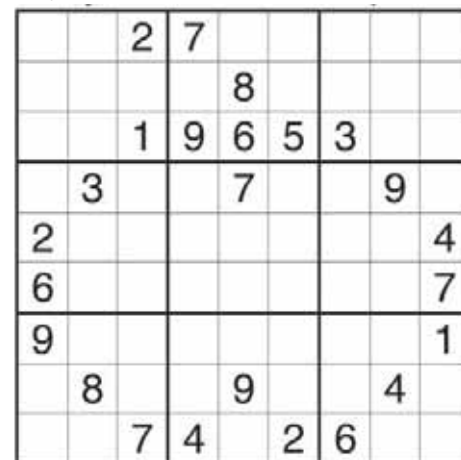
Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You have some pretty remarkable ideas buzzing around inside that big head of yours. Don't share them with people in positions of power. They may fear, rightly, that you are aiming to outshine them.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Say what you mean and mean what you say. Don't worry if certain people don't like it. There may be a backlash but you are big enough and tough enough to ride out the storm.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Don't go over the top and make enemies of people who should be friends. You may be speaking the truth, but if you hurt others' feelings they will hurt you right back.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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